

Message Text

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12

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 NEA-10 ADP-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00

COME-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 L-03 RSR-01 /082 W
----- 023954

R 101040 Z MAY 73
FM AMEMBASSY KABUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3198
INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
DIA WASHDC

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E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ETRN, AF
SUBJECT: CHINESE- AFGHAN AIR SERVICE

REF: KABUL A-124, NOVEMBER 27, 1972

1. AFGHAN AIR AUTHORITY (AAA) SOURCES HAVE CONFIRMED EMBASSY JUDGMENT THAT ARIANA AIRLINES WILL NOT BE ABLE TO BEGIN CHINA SERVICE IN MAY AS ORIGINALLY PLANNED (REF). ARIANA HAS JUST PURCHASED A BOEING 720 B FROM PANAM (49 PERCENT OWNER OF ARIANA), BUT WILL NOT BE ABLE TO TAKE DELIVERY OR TRAIN CREWS FOR SEVERAL MONTHS. ARIANA' S CREWS CURRENTLY FLY ONLY 727 S. IN ADDITION, AAA DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL MALYAR TOLD EMBECONOFF THAT PRC IS NOW SOMEWHAT UNWILLING TO ALLOW USE OF URUMCHI AIRFIELD FOR REFUELING AND ALSO THAT GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN IS BEING VERY DIFFICULT ON OVERFLIGHT RIGHTS IN NORTHERN REGION PAKISTAN. BECAUSE AFGHANS HAVE NOT YET INSTALLED GUIDANCE EQUIPMENT IN WAKHAN CORRIDOR, WHOLE ROUTE QUESTION IS NOW UNCERTAIN ACCORDING MALYAR.

2. EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT MAIN OBSTACLE AT PRESENT TO OPENING
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CHINA ROUTE IS LACK OF TRAINED PERSONNEL TO FLY NEW TYPE
AIRCRAFT. ONCE AIRCRAFT IS ON HAND, ARIANA MAY DECIDE HIRE ALL
FOREIGN (AMERICAN?) CREW. ARIANA COULD FLY WAKHAN CORRIDOR
ROUTE WITHOUT ONGROUND NAVIGATION IF NECESSARY AND HOPEFULLY
REPORTED PROBLEMS WITH PAKISTAN WILL BE OVERCOME. 720 B IS ALSO
ABLE TO FLY NONSTOP TO PEKING OR SHANGHAI WITHOUT STOPPING
URUMCHI.
NEUMANN

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NMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

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To: BEIRUT
DIA WASHDC
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HONG KONG
ISLAMABAD
MOSCOW
SECSTATE WASHDC

TEHRAN

Type: TE

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